

Attorney Docket No. MP/143

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE#1013
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7-24-02

Applicant : Walter
Appl. No. : 09/369,231
Filed : 08/05/99
Title : Surface Modified Expanded
Polytetrafluoroethylene Devices
and Methods of Producing The Same
Grp/Art Unit : 1771
Examiner : Vo, Hai

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark
Office on July 22, 2002.

Melanie Williams
Melanie Williams

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF APRIL 23, 2002

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 23, 2002, please amend the present application
as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 2, and 10 to read as follows:

1. (twice amended) A material comprising:

a surface comprising expanded PTFE having a node and fibril microstructure;
the surface having a number of node clusters, said node clusters comprising
multiple nodes interconnected by fibrils, and gnarled nodes situated between the node
clusters; and

said gnarled nodes having a protruding length and being substantially devoid of
fibrils along the protruding length.

9/2. (twice amended) A material comprising:

a surface comprising expanded PTFE having a node and fibril microstructure;
said surface comprising a textured pattern having multiple ridges and valley
surfaces, the ridges comprised of node clusters;
said node clusters comprising multiple nodes interconnected by fibrils;